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[54] **METHOD FOR TREATING SYSTEMIC HYPOTENSION CAUSED BY SEPSIS OR CYTOKINE USING ARGINASE IN COMBINATION WITH AN α_1 ADRENERGIC AGONIST**

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Related U.S. Application Data

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[51] Int. Cl.⁶ **A61K 37/54**

[52] U.S. Cl. **424/94.6**

[58] Field of Search 435/1, 240.1, 240.2, 435/240.3, 240.31; 514/564, 2; 424/94.6

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

Reducing plasma levels of endogenous arginine by parenteral administration of arginine depleting agent limits nitric oxide formation and results in blood pressure increase. Preferably arginase is administered intravenously to raise blood pressure. The arginine depleting agent can be administered in conjunction with arginine antagonists to potentiate the effect of these. The arginine depleting agent can be used concurrently with α_1 adrenergic agonists in treating systemic hypotension caused by induced production of nitric oxide, to restore vascular contractile sensitivity to the effect of the α_1 adrenergic agonists. Duration of action and avoidance of antigenicity may be obtained by use in conjunction with a carrier or modifier.

5 Claims, 2 Drawing Sheets